

American Recovery & Reinvestment 2009 Asheville, North Carolina Community Portfolio

Community Project Proposal Guidelines

This form is intended for use for proposing a community project that meets the intent and guidelines set forth in the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009. Complete text of the act is available at http://www.rules.house.gov/111/LegText/111_hr1_text.pdf. Information must be limited to the two pages included in this form.

Proposals may be submitted by:

- E-mail to economicrecovery@ashevillenc.gov;
- Fax to (828) 259-5499, or;
- Mail to P.O. Box 7148, Asheville, NC 28802, ATTN: Economic Recovery

If you require any assistance in preparing a project proposal or have questions about the process, please e-mail economicrecovery@ashevillenc.gov.

In the interest of government transparency and public participation, all submitted information will be made available to the community. Please do not submit information considered to be confidential or proprietary. Submitted proposals will be posted at www.ashevillenc.gov/economicrecovery for public review.

Contact Information

Proposing Agency or Organization

Organization Name:

The Health Adventure

Project Name:

Momentum Science & Health Adventure
Park

Contact Details

Physical Address:

2 South Pack Square, Box 180
Asheville, NC 28802-0180

Phone:

828-254-6373

Project Manager:

Paige Johnson

Phone:

828-254-6373

Title:

President & CEO

E-mail Address:

paigej@thehealthadventure.org

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Project Information

1. Project Description

Please include a brief project description.

The Health Adventure is currently building Momentum: Science and Health Adventure Park. We broke ground on December 1, 2008, and anticipate opening date in spring of 2010. We are a 40-year-old educational non-profit whose mission, presence and commitment in the Asheville area has enabled us to grow and be counted on by the educators, parents, children and leaders in the region as a first rate source of family friendly entertainment, education and fun. Momentum will have one of a kind exhibits and attractions, classrooms, a working radio studio, North America's first ever pedal-powered monorail, and much more to make it our region's premiere family destination.

2. Project Purpose

Please describe the project's public purpose and benefit.

Momentum is a 10 acre indoor & outdoor attraction that will teach health, wellness, science and environmental lessons in a safe and hands-on environment. Momentum will be a center for community engagement, a catalyst for economic advancement and tourism revenue in our region as well as being a world-class environmental teaching tool. Our impact on local economy does not stop at our doors- with our marketing directed at outside markets to increase tourism, and full-service food services using locally grown and farmed foods we will support the economy outside Buncombe county as well. Our biggest impact will be made on the knowledge and awareness of our region's children, educators and families.

3. Project Cost

Include the total project cost

\$25,000,000

4. Job Creation

Estimated number of jobs created by project.

200 jobs supported during construction; 30 permanent positions added at Momentum.

5. Project Schedule

Include start and finish dates for the project.

Ground was broken on December 1, 2008.
Completion anticipated Spring, 2010.

5a. Project Schedule

Can the project be contracted and commenced within 120 days? Please indicate yes or no.

Yes.

6. Goal Alignment

Briefly describe how the project will achieve the goals of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act.

Momentum is a shovel ready project with construction documents and work already in progress. This means new jobs for today! Momentum will be an amazing resource and asset for Western North Carolina- for education, for family engagement, for our environment, and as a great boon to our tourism industry. As one of the major points in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act a leading point to jumpstart job creation and long term growth is investing in science, research and technology that will lead to new medical breakthroughs, new discoveries and entire new industries. President Obama has called for urgent action to save or create jobs by investing in priorities like health care, energy and education that will stimulate economic growth. Momentum is a catalyst of all three priorities. Momentum will be a national model of a science, health and environmentally aware educational attraction.